Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid encoding an IC-RFX polypeptide comprising ~~at least 70% identical to~~ SEQ ID NO:2.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid comprises SEQ ID NO:1.

4. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide comprising in the following order: a proline/glutamine rich domain, an RFX DNA binding domain (SEQ ID NO:4), an RFX B domain (SEQ ID NO:5), an RFX C domain (SEQ ID NO:6), a dimerization domain (SEQ ID NO:7) and a serine/threonine domain.

5. (Currently amended) An expression cassette comprising a promoter operably linked to the nucleic acid of claim 1 or claim 4.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Original) A host cell transfected with the nucleic acid of claim 1 or claim 4.

12. (Original) The host cell of claim 11, wherein the cell is a pancreatic islet cell.

13. (Original) The host cell of claim 12, wherein the cell is an islet β-cell.

14. (Currently amended) A method of diagnosing a subject with diabetes or a susceptibility for diabetes, the method comprising

detecting in a sample from the subject a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising in the following order: a proline/glutamine rich domain, an RFX DNA binding domain (SEQ ID NO:4), an RFX B domain (SEQ ID NO:5), an RFX C domain (SEQ ID NO:6), a dimerization domain (SEQ ID NO:7) and a serine/threonine domain ~~that hybridizes to a probe comprising SEQ ID NO:1 following at least one wash in 0.2X SSC at 55° C for 20 minutes~~.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the polynucleotide is detected by hybridization.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the polynucleotide is detected by amplification of the polynucleotide.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the nucleotide sequence of the polynucleotide is determined.

18-31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently amended) A method of introducing an expression cassette into a cell, the method comprising,

introducing into the cell an expression cassette comprising a promoter operably linked to a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide, the polypeptide comprising in the following order: a proline/glutamine rich domain, an RFX DNA binding domain (SEQ ID NO:4), an RFX B domain (SEQ ID NO:5), an RFX C domain (SEQ ID NO:6), a dimerization domain (SEQ ID NO:7) and a serine/threonine domain ~~an IC-RFX polypeptide at least 70% identical to SEQ ID NO:2~~.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:2.

34. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the polynucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:1.

35. (Original) The method of claim 32, the method further comprising introducing the cell into a human.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the human is diabetic.

37. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the human is prediabetic.

38. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the cell is from the human.

39. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the cell is a pancreatic islet cell.

40. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the cell is an islet β-cell.